

BRADYPUS URSINUS.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Dentes Primores nulli utrinque.

Laniarii obtusi, solitarii, molaribus longiores.

Molares utrinque 5 vel 6.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS.

BRADYPUS niger hirsutissimus, naso elongato nudo.

Inter plurima quæ physicis nuperrime innotuerunt, principem sibi locum non immerito vindicat animal in tabula depictum ; quod fortasse nonnullis videatur novum omnino per se genus constituere. Opinione tamen firmatus celeberrimi PENNANTI, cujus comes, in illius characteres primum sedulo inquisivi, ad genus Bradypi referendum censeo.

Habitu corporis externo ad ursum vulgarem tam prope accedit Bradypus Ursinus, ut pro Ursi specie a quibusdam habitus sit. Vetant tamen omnino dentes, unguesque peculiariter formati, cum cæteris characteribus, ut Ursi speciem esse pronunciam.

Magnitudine est ursi vulgaris, exceptoque vultu, seu rostro, villo nigro, longo, et hirsuto totus obtegitur ; qui tamen super collum et tergum multo longior est quam in cætero corpore. In partibus corporis anterioribus antrorsum spectat hirsutia ; in posterioribus retrorsum.

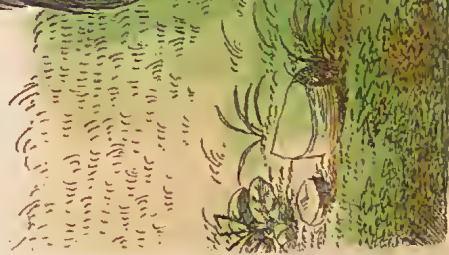
trorsum. Oculi minimi : aures parvæ, et denso capitis vellere fere absconditæ. Dentes incisores nulli sunt. Utrique maxillæ insunt duo dentes laniarii modici : qui in maxilla superiore siti sunt uncias circiter duas a se invicem distant ; qui in inferiore, paulo minus. In maxilla superiore insunt dentes molares tres utrinque, quorum duo maxime remoti seu interiores sunt quasi duplices et lobati ; alter simplex est. In inferiore sunt utrinque sex molares, quorum remotissimus seu interior simplex est ; duo huic proximi duplices, cæterique tres simplices. Linguae lævi nihil peculiare est. Rostrum elongatum est, et tenfile, videturque cartilagine transversa et mobili interius esse instructum. Ungues pedum anticorum, qui quinque, sunt validissimi, modice incurvati et acuminati : pedum posteriorum ungues breviores sunt et potius rotundati : Cauda brevissima vix distingui potest.

Ab interiore Bengala allatus est Bradypus Urfinus, et quartum jam annum excessit. Primo detectus Urfum Lotorem LINNÆI, qui *Raccoon* vulgo dicitur, magnitudine vix superavit ; illumque latratum quasi caninum emisisse afferunt custodes. Vox illi nunc nulla est præter rugitum brevem et abruptum, qui non nisi laceffito et irritato prodit. Mitis est et tranquillæ ingenii. Vegetabilibus et lacticiiniis vescitur : gaudet pomis, carnesque fastidit, nisi forte tenerrimas. Medullam tamen ex osse lubentissime exugit. Melle, saccharo, et omnis generis cupediis delectatur. Motus huic non ut in aliis ejusdem generis, tardissimus, sed modicus. Solet itum atque iterum, more canis cubitum ituri, circumgyrare.

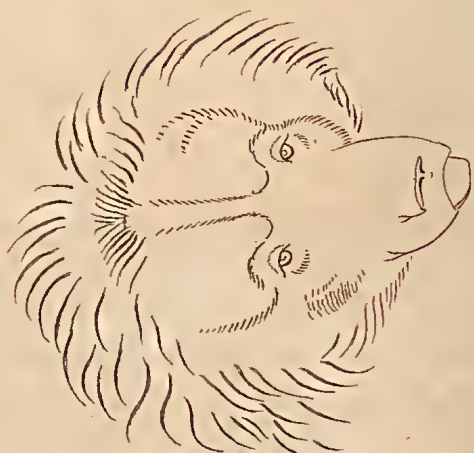
gyrare. Terram scalpere, et sub humo velle se occultare dicitur, unde a repertoribus primo effossus est.

Ab ingenioso Domino CARTON figuram hanc nostram mutuati sumus, qui quicquid animali proprium et singulare est optime expressit.

In altera tabula ringens exhibetur caput, ut situs dentium ostendatur, nec non ut rostrum superius, ope cartilaginis internæ egregie flexibile, quodammodo demonstretur.







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THE
URSINE BRADYPUS,
OR
URSIFORM SLOTH.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Cutting-Teeth none in either jaw.

Canine-Teeth solitary, longer than the grinders.

Grinders in each jaw 5 or 6.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

BLACK BRADYPUS with very long shaggy hair, and naked lengthened snout.

Amongst the new species of animals with which Zoology has been lately enriched, the creature here figured claims a distinguished place; and it may be doubted whether it might not with great propriety constitute a new genus. In compliance however with the opinion of Mr. PENNANT, in whose company I first made an accurate examination of its characters, I have here placed it as a species of the genus *Bradypus*, or Sloth.

In its habit, or general appearance, it has a striking resemblance to the common bear, and it has even been considered as a species of bear by some naturalists.

Its teeth, however, and the peculiar formation of its claws, with several other particulars, absolutely forbid it to be any longer considered as a species of *Ursus*.

The animal is about the size of a bear, and is covered all over, except on the face, or rather the snout, with long, shaggy, black hair, which on the neck and back is much longer than in other parts. On the fore part of the body the hair points forwards, and on the hinder part backwards. The eyes are very small; the ears rather small, and partly hid in the long hair of the head. It is totally destitute of incisores or front-teeth: in each jaw are two canine teeth of a moderate size: those in the upper jaw are situated at the distance of two inches from each other: those in the lower jaw are placed somewhat less remote. The molares or grinders in the upper jaw are three on each side; of which the two most remote are double, or lobed: the remaining one simple. In the lower jaw there are on each side six grinders, of which the most remote or backward is simple; the two next double, and the three remaining ones simple. The tongue is smooth, and has nothing remarkable in its appearance. The nose, or snout is of a somewhat elongated form; it also appears as if furnished with a sort of transverse joint, or internal cartilage, which admits of a peculiar kind of motion in this part. The claws on the fore-feet are five in number, and are excessively strong, moderately crooked, and sharp pointed: those on the hind-feet are shorter, and of a rounder shape. The tail is very short, and inconspicuous.

This

This animal was brought from the interior parts of Bengal, and is now somewhat more than four years old. When first taken, it is said to have been about the size of a raccoon, and is reported to have sometimes barked in the manner of a dog. Its voice however at present is rather a sort of short, abrupt roar, which it emits when much disturbed or irritated. It is gentle and good-natured : feeds chiefly on vegetable substances and milk ; and is fond of apples, and does not willingly eat animal food, except of a very tender nature, as marrow, which it readily sucks from a bone presented to it. It is also delighted with honey, sugar, and other sweets. Its motions are not as in others of this genus, slow and languid, but moderately lively, and it appears to have an habit of turning itself round and round every now and then, as if for amusement, in the manner of a dog when lying down to sleep. It is said to have a propensity to burrowing under ground ; and that it was at first dug out of its retreat by those who discovered it.

The figure here given is copied from a drawing by Mr. CATTON, an artist who has been peculiarly happy in expressing the appearance of the animal.

In the additional plate is represented a view of the head in a ringent state ; in order to shew not only the form and disposition of the teeth, but also in some measure the singular flexibility of the upper part of the snout, as if furnished with a joint or internal cartilage.